

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 – 27 (previously canceled)

28. (currently amended) A system for managing a directory of published objects and removing nonfunctional objects, the directory maintained on a computer network, and a directory service for providing access to resources represented by corresponding objects in the directory of published objects, the system comprising:
a pruning module including a module for testing if a specified object, from the directory of published objects, is accessible, a module for determining if the specified object is deleteable, wherein a list of orphaned objects is tested in accordance with a specifiable policy, wherein the specifiable policy monitors the specified object with a low priority thread to determine if the specified object is orphaned, and a module for testing if software hosting the specified object is capable of republishing the specified object;
a domain controller hosting the pruning module and the directory of published objects; and
a thread for executing the pruning module.

Claims 29 – 32 (previously canceled)